REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the above amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in the application; independent Claims 1 and 11 having been amended by way of the present response.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,405,242 to Watanabe et al. (Watanabe) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,862,211 to Kobayashi. Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection of the claims has been overcome for the following reasons.

As stated above, independent Claims 1 and 11 have been amended. Applicants respectfully assert that support for these changes are self-evident from the originally filed disclosure, including the original claims, and that therefore no new matter has been added.[1]

The present invention is directed to projection display apparatuses. Independent Claim 1 recites a communication control section configured to control communication with an external device by at least one of a first communication port and a second communication port, the second communication port adapted to be connected to an additional projection display apparatus. A control section is configured to, in response to an initialization signal input through the first communication port, store ID information in a storage section regarding an identity of the projection display apparatus based on the initialization signal. Independent Claim 11 recites communication control section means for controlling communication with an external device by at least one of a first communication port means and a second communication port means, the second communication port means for connecting to an additional projection display apparatus. Control means, in response to an initialization signal input through the first communication port means, store ID information in

[1] Please see, for example, page 7, lines 23-28; and from page 8, line 22 to page 9, line 29, of the originally filed disclosure.

a storage means regarding an identity of the projection display apparatus based on the initialization signal.

Watanabe is directed to a computer terminal operation system. As shown in Figure 1, for example, of Watanabe, a computer terminal operation system is realized by a computer network comprising a number of terminals 10, 20, 30 . . . etc. All terminals are connected via a computer network such as a LAN 50. The terminals include a point information part 101, a key code input part 102, a controller 103 and output part 104.[2] As the output part 104, an output sub-system such as a display monitor can be used. This computer terminal operation system can be used as an electronic conference system by connecting a large projection monitor to one of the terminals and controlling the terminal with the large projection monitor from the other terminals.[3]

However, because none of the terminals 10, 20, 30 . . . etc., of the computer terminal operation systems are projection display apparatus, and therefore no projection display apparatus includes a communication port adapted to be connected to an additional projection display apparatus, for example, in Watanabe, Applicants respectfully assert that Watanabe does not teach or suggest the claimed features of a projection display apparatus including a communication port adapted to be connected to an additional projection display apparatus, as recited in independent Claims 1 and 11. Rather, as discussed throughout the specification, a projection display apparatus is understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to include, by way of non-limiting example, an apparatus that projects an image on a screen, such as a plurality of projectors that project an identical image on an identical screen.[4]

Specifically, independent Claim 1 recites "the second communication port adapted to be connected to an additional projection display apparatus." Independent Claim 11 recites

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[2] Column 5, lines 55-62.
[3] Column 6, lines 17-24.
[4] Please see, for example, page 1, lines 9-10; and page 7, lines 6-8, of the originally filed disclosure.

"the second communication port means for connecting to an additional projection display apparatus."

The Office Action relies on Kobayashi in an attempt to remedy the deficiencies of Watanabe. However, Applicants respectfully assert that Kobayashi also does not teach or suggest the claimed features of a projection display apparatus including a communication port adapted to be connected to an additional projection display apparatus, as recited in independent Claims 1 and 11, for the following reasons.

Rather, Kobayashi is directed to an electronic controller. As shown in Figure 1, for example, of Kobayashi, the engine controller (or engine control unit) includes an input/output circuit 8 and an input/output circuit 10. The input/output circuit 8 processes the signals from various sensors that are provided in an engine 1, provides the resulting signals to the A microprocessor 4 and receives the control signals from the A microprocessor 4 to open and close an electronic throttle valve. The input/output circuit 10 processes the signals from various sensors that are provided in the engine 1, provides the resulting signals to the B microprocessor 6 and receives the control signals from the B microprocessor 6 to drive an injector and an igniter that are installed in the engine 1.[5]

Thus, because the engine controller/engine control unit is not a projection display apparatus, and therefore no projection display apparatus includes a communication port adapted to be connected to an additional projection display apparatus, for example, in Kobayashi, Applicants respectfully assert that Kobayashi does not teach or suggest the claimed features of a projection display apparatus including a communication port adapted to be connected to an additional projection display apparatus, as recited in independent Claims 1 and 11.

[5] From column 6, line 52 to column 7, line 2.

Thus, for the above reasons, Applicants respectfully assert that neither Watanabe, nor Kobayashi, whether taken alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the claimed features recited in independent Claims 1 and 11. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of independent Claims 1 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn and the independent claims allowed.

Dependent Claims 2-10 and 12-20 depend from independent Claims 1 and 11, and are therefore also allowable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims, as well as for their own recited features. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent Claims 2-10 and 12-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn and the dependent claims allowed.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-20 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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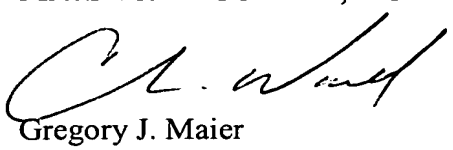

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IN THE CLAIMS

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A projection display apparatus, comprising:

a communication control section configured to control communication with an external device by at least one of a first communication port and a second communication port, the second communication port adapted to be connected to an additional projection display apparatus;

a storage section; and

a control section configured to, in response to an initialization signal input through the first communication port, store ID information [corresponding to the initialization signal into] in the storage section regarding an identity of the projection display apparatus based on the initialization signal, update the initialization signal according to a predetermined rule, and transmit the updated initialization signal through the second communication port, the control section further configured to, in response to a command input through the first communication port, determine whether or not the command is directed to itself as a projection display apparatus of interest, based on address information included in the command and the ID information stored in the storage section, and the control section is further configured to carry out a processing specified by the command if the command is directed to itself as the projection display apparatus of interest.

11. (Amended) A projection display apparatus, comprising:

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communication control section means for controlling communication with an external device by at least one of a first communication port means and a second communication port means, the second communication port means for connecting to an additional projection display apparatus;

storage means; and

control means for, in response to an initialization signal input through the first communication port means, storing ID information [corresponding to the initialization signal into] in the storage means regarding an identity of the projection display apparatus based on the initialization signal, updating the initialization signal according to a predetermined rule, and transmitting the updated initialization signal through the second communication port means, the control means further for, in response to a command input through the first communication port means, determining whether or not the command is directed to itself as a projection display apparatus of interest, based on address information included in the command and the ID information stored in the storage means, and for further carrying out a processing specified by the command if the command is directed to itself as the projection display apparatus of interest.